Project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories that are complete in all respects are approved on the basis of *inter-se* priority and funds released subject to availability under respective heads.

A project 'Floodlighting of monuments in Rajasthan' has been sanctioned for Rs.800.00 lakh in the current financial year.

(b) Details of CFA released for development of tourism heritage places in Rajasthan year-wise during the last three years is given below:

(Rs. in lakh)

Year	Amount
2006-07	953.84
2005-06	2099.69
2004-05	2519.06

Cruise Tourism

†407. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to promote tourism in the country by identifying some of the ports as cruise tourism centres in the coastal areas of India;

(b) if so, the names of such ports; and

(c) by when these cruise tourism centres would be developed?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Ministry of Tourism promotes Cruise Tourism in India through India tourism offices in domestic and overseas markets.

(b) and (c) The draft Cruise Shipping Policy of the Ministry of Shipping provides for development of cruise facilities in ports in a phased manner.

New tourism policy

†408. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of those State Governments including Delhi Government which have formulated new tourism policy to develop tourist spots and to attract large number of foreign tourists;

(b) whether Government have approved the above policy. State-wise; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Religious tourism in Orissa

409. SHRI B. J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Orissa is the cultural and religious heritage centre of Buddhism and sea-route is a convenient mode of travel for South-East Asian people to visit the large numbers of ancient Buddhist temples located in the State;

(b) whether to boost religious tourism in the State, there is an urgent need to develop auxiliary infrastructure *i.e.* roads etc., which are in bad shape; and

(c) the action plan of the centre to help the cash-strapped State to develop the road infrastructure to boost religious tourism in the State with a view to improve its economy?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for tourism related projects under schemes for Product/Infrastructure Development of Destinations/Circuits and Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.

A list of projects sanctioned for the State of Orissa, including religious places, during the Tenth Plan is given in Statement.

Statement

Religious Tourism in Orissa

Projects sanctioned to the State of Orissa during the Tenth Plan

(Rs. in lakh)

SI. No.	Name of Project/Scheme	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3
	2002-03	
1.	Rural Tourism Project at Raghurajpur	50.00
2.	Computerisation of office and its Groups	7.50
	TOTAL	57.50